



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



*[The Editor is not responsible for opinions expressed in this Department.]*

---

DEAR EDITOR: I have been much interested in the letters of "Orange" in reference to establishing a fund for nurses who are incapacitated.

It certainly behooves us not only to establish a fund on *good business principles*, but to encourage the young nurse just starting out to put away for a rainy day.

In connection with this I would suggest insurance on the endowment plan. There are several substantial companies where one can put away a stated sum every year and at the end of ten or twenty years have something to depend upon. "God helps those who help themselves." I meet nurses who have told me they have been doing private work for ten or fifteen years and have never saved anything—never even thought it necessary. Now if they had taken out a policy, they would have managed to pay that before any other debt and would reap the benefit when they most needed it. It is because these suggestions were never made to me that I never thought of it, else now I would be some hundreds of dollars better off. Saving becomes a habit as well as spending.

It seems to me that superintendents of training-schools could encourage thrift by allowing some agents from reputable companies to talk with nurses on insurance. I know of one superintendent who did this with the result that quite a number of nurses took out policies on the endowment plan. Look at our most successful business men. Most of them carry heavy insurance, showing they think it a good investment.

Some, I know, will say, "Oh! I put money in the bank." But how frequently it is taken out on the smallest provocation. The bank may fail, but your policy is safe and cannot be seized for debt. In other words, you are protected against yourself.

I know this does not cover the whole question of dependent nurses, but for the nurses of the future it might mean independence.

Another matter comes up, Why should not the insurance agency appeal to nurses who desire to take up a means of livelihood other than nursing? They might do work among nurses with benefit to themselves and their customers.

It seems to me it would be better than to have graduate nurses giving instruction to ladies (who don't need it) in how to take care of the sick, as we read of occasionally. Or, as in the *Ladies' Home Journal*, teaching so-called nursing.

FLEUR-DE-LIS.

---

WATERLOO, QUEBEC, CANADA, September 17, 1903.

DEAR EDITOR: I have noted with much regret the statement in the last number of the JOURNAL that there are still a large number of unsold copies of the "Transactions of the Nursing Congress" held at Buffalo in 1901. I have not your JOURNAL by me at the moment, but if memory serves me aright these "Transac-

tions" were ordered to be published by the various societies represented at the congress, who thus tacitly guaranteed to purchase the copies either as societies or individuals. The publication of these "Transactions" was placed in the hands of a committee, who, by the way, deserve high commendation for the way in which they performed their task, and who certainly would hardly have ventured upon their own responsibility to run the risk of incurring a large indebtedness to be met by the association.

I cannot help thinking that this is a matter which is deserving of the most careful consideration, not only of each *alumnæ* association, but of the superintendents of our training-schools, inasmuch as both societies were represented at the congress. An obligation assumed is none the less an obligation because no written promises or guarantees accompany it. There is another view of the matter, however, and to present it briefly is my purpose in writing to you. These "Transactions" are the carefully prepared records of one of the most noteworthy events which has ever taken place in the nursing world. The gathering together there of nurses from all parts of America and from foreign countries, women grown gray in the service, to whose arduous labors the profession owes its status to-day, was not only an interesting but a memorable occasion, which those who had the good fortune to be present will never forget. The writer, debarred from that privilege, treasures as the one tangible evidence of this great event her volume of "Transactions," and refers to it constantly. It would be hard to find any volumes of more interest and value to nurses than the records of our first Nursing Congress in Chicago in 1893, the International Congress in London in 1899, and the recent records of the Congress in Buffalo. They are history, and as such ought to be in every nurse's library. The latest volume is of convenient size and comparatively inexpensive. It is so interesting and so useful for information and reference that it is hard to understand how any nurse, watchful of the progress of her profession and interested in its welfare, can consent to be without it.

As it may not be generally known through whom these books may be obtained, I venture to suggest that a brief notice in the pages of this JOURNAL, giving this information and adding the cost of book and transportation, may be helpful to those (and I hope they may be many) desiring to purchase. Trusting I have not trespassed too greatly on your valuable space, believe me,

Yours faithfully,

M. A. NUTTING.

---

[LETTERS to the Editor must be accompanied by the name in full and address of the writer, otherwise such communications cannot be recognized. The name need not appear in the JOURNAL unless so desired.—ED.]

